

## Goodwin's Weekly

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.  
TENTH YEAR

**SUBSCRIPTION PRICE OF GOODWIN'S WEEKLY**  
Including postage in the United States, Canada and Mexico, \$2.50 per year; \$1.50 for six months. Subscriptions to all foreign countries within the Postal Union, \$4.00 per year.  
Single copies, 5 cents.

Payment should be made by Check, Money Order or Registered Letter, payable to Goodwin's Weekly.

Address all communications to Goodwin's Weekly Entered at the Postoffice at Salt Lake City, Utah, U. S. A., as second-class matter.

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### Free Trade And No Ships; What Then?

THE Democrats have control of the House of Representatives, and a distinguished Republican senator says the Republicans no longer control the senate, meaning that on crucial questions, the insurgent Republicans will vote with the Democrats. Now the Democratic party is at heart a free trade party. Its representatives in congress are coquetting a little with the tariff now, but were the party to obtain the presidency and control of both houses of congress, another Wilson bill would be framed and passed within a year.

But at the same time there would be no chance of restoring the Merchant Marine of the country. The Democratic party believes in the English idea of raising revenue, but it rejects the English theory of ocean commerce, and in effect says, "If American ships cannot hold their own against foreign ships, why it is better for us to hire our freighting done by foreigners. They look with indifference upon what Germany has done by keeping her merchant ships going during the past thirty years, and seem altogether oblivious of the effect of the drain of \$250,000,000 per annum which this country pays annually to foreign ship owners and which reduces the cash reserves of this country just that much, and which added to what has to go abroad to pay interest and dividends, keeps this country without a surplus and in such a condition that the failure of one crop would utterly prostrate the business of the country.

There is yet another feature. The ship owners of two or three foreign countries fix the rates to be charged for passengers and freights. Now with the tariff eliminated and the freighting left to the foreigners, what possible chance would there be for American merchants and manufacturers to extend American trade? If anything were to be sent abroad those ship owners would know what it was. They would fix the rates and would at the same time notify their countrymen of the shipment and the freight charged. Would not the natural result be that their own countries would at once forestall the shipment and when the American goods reached their destination, would not foreign goods of the same kind and style be there and for sale at prices which would close the market to the American goods?

With such a prospect ahead, what was really the object of constructing the Panama canal? And when statesmen and wise journals tell us what the canal is bound to do for American commerce, what do they really mean? The south may send out some cotton through it, but it will have to go in foreign ships. We are not sure of even that until we know what the tolls are to be on the canal.

A penny a pound on cotton is on an average 10 per cent of its value, and the difference a month or two in delivering it does not matter. One cent a pound would mean, on a ship like the Olympia, \$700,000; a tenth of that would mean

\$70,000 toll, so that really only ships loaded with costly freight can afford to patronize the canal, for \$70,000 would buy coal to run the Olympia probably twenty six days and that would be enough to drive the ship from England around through the straits of Magellan and up to Panama.

But this is a diversion. The question we desire to ask the country is, with free trade and no shipping, how long would it take foreign ship-owners and manufacturers to so drain the United States of money, and so prostrate all its skilled industries that the Great Republic would not become the pity of the whole world?

### The Paget Twins

HERE is a chance for you girls. The twin sons of Sir Arthur and Lady Paget have purchased a 2,500 acre fruit ranch in California, near Los Angeles, and declare that they are going to become American citizens and marry American girls. They are 23 years of age, are graduates of Oxford and are of fine stock. On the father's side, they are descendants of that Paget, who won his Marquisate at Waterloo, the mother was Miss Minnie Stevens, the daughter of the late Paron Stevens of New York.

Their elder brother is a captain of a regiment in India. He and their father wanted the boys to go into the army; the mother entirely approves of their becoming American fruit farmers. They seem to be game boys. They first tried an oil well in Wyoming which did not materialize, and they worked a good while at \$60 a month each on the Northern Pacific Railroad. Of course they will inherit great wealth after a while, but they seem to have the stuff in them to break even if they do not get the wealth. Naturally the elder brother will get the title and most of the estate, but he will only be a marquis. The boys when they get their American citizenship papers will be sovereigns.

### Unpreparedness For War

THE Review of Reviews is publishing in serial form "The Volunteer soldier of 1861." The most striking feature, thus far brought out is the absolute unpreparedness of the northern states for a war when Sumter was fired upon. The series is written by General Charles King of the army. So we may be sure that his description of the condition of things at the opening of the war is authentic. Some of the states had a few militia regiments, who had received a little training in the A, B, C's of the soldier, but there was no organization and no preparation for real war.

How many deaths of brave men; how much loss of property; how much humiliation this brought upon the north during the first two years of the war can never be estimated. The regular army at the time was composed of some 21,000 men, these were scattered over the whole Republic, but especially out on the western frontiers and in Texas; so there was no nucleus of regulars around whom volunteers could be trained; there was a fearful lack of men who could train "awkward squads" even in the first rudiments of war; there were few men who understood at all how to lay out military camps; sanitation was not much considered, men as a rule knew nothing about taking care of themselves, and it was months before anything like an organized and disciplined army was in the field.

Probably there was much such a state of affairs in the south, but nearly every man in the south had carried a pistol more or less, and there were a good many military schools scattered through the south, and up to 1860 nearly all the officers educated at West Point had been appointed by Democratic congressmen so when the war came on a majority of the regular army officers, resigned and went south.

But the object of this article is solely to urge upon congress and the several states, the need of a more general and thorough training of the young men in as much of military discipline as would avoid the losses and humiliation in organizing real armies, when necessary, as possible. Had our war against Spain been against Great Britain, or France or Germany, there would have been a repetition of much of the loss and suffering of 1861, though there would have been old volunteer officers enough to train the recruits. But as it was the camp of Chickamauga made clear how helpless the war found our country. We think every state should by statute compel every young man to serve a year in the army, and if that cannot be done, then that they should all go into a military camp and be trained three months per annum, for at least three years. Then we think the secretary of war should report annually to congress the condition of the forts, if supplied with ammunition, and if surplus arms, blankets and tents, etc., were on hand. As things are allowed to drift, our country is all the time tempting some strong power to assail it.

### The Maine And The War With Spain

ON THE supposition that the full exposure of the wreck of the Maine in Havana harbor will show that it was destroyed by an internal instead of external explosion, a great many newspapers are assuming that the destruction of the Maine caused the declaration by our congress of war against Spain, in retaliation and that the proof that the destruction of the ship and the lives of the brave men that went down to death in her, was not the fault of the Spaniards at all, is a great humiliation to us, and that it should be a lesson to us not to be carried away in a fit of passion over a supposed wrong.

All of which seems quite unnecessary. The destruction of the Maine may have hastened the declaration, though it was many weeks after the ship was destroyed before the declaration came, but people forget that even before President Cleveland's term of office expired, he was strongly disposed to interfere in Cuban affairs and declared that if the outrages there being perpetrated, were not soon stopped, to interpose would be the duty of the United States.

The then Captain General had set to work to destroy all who were in arms against Spanish authority and to starve to death the old men and women; and the children of those who sympathized with the insurgents; that when our forces finally invaded and captured the island, they found tens of thousands of those starving wretches whom they had to feed and nurse back to health. And almost as brutal was Spain's rule in the Philippines. The truth is, our government had been trying for a year and a half to avoid a war with Spain and had been urging that country to stop the atrocities in Cuba. But Spain was not only indifferent, but was all the time almost impertinent. She believed that in case of war her fleet could sink ours, and that if any of our forces landed in Cuba she could treat them as she treated two or three little filibustering expeditions of Americans. She being all ready to be destroyed, "the gods had made her mad."

The entire unselfishness of the United States was made clear by the pledge which congress made when the declaration was issued, guaranteeing Cuba, in case of the success of our arms, to the Cuban people, which promise was fulfilled, just as soon as order could be restored and the island put in a position to maintain itself.

Finally, we expect that it will be demonstrated that all the Maine's magazines were exploded. But what set them off except an explosion from the outside?